

Kan. Cong. Dist. No. 2
Bill Roy

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

SELGEM

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Kansas	
COUNTY: Pottawatomie	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON:	Pottawatomie Indian Pay Station (preferred name)
AND/OR HISTORIC:	Indian Agency Building

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: NW 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 10, T 10 S, R 12 E			
Off US-24-40 east of the city limits, west of St. Mary's College campus, on			
CITY OR TOWN:		Mission street	
St. Marys			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Kansas	66536	Pottawatomie	149

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Missouri Provincial Educational Institute			
STREET AND NUMBER: 4511 West Pine Blvd.			
CITY OR TOWN: St. Louis		STATE: Missouri	CODE 29

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Register of Deeds			
STREET AND NUMBER: Pottawatomie County Courthouse			
CITY OR TOWN: Westmoreland		STATE: Kansas	CODE 66549

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Survey of Historic Sites and Structures in Kansas			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1957 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Kansas State Historical Society			
STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Topeka		STATE: Kansas	CODE 66612

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The original Pottawatomie Indian Pay Station building was a one-story stone structure. Native stone was used for the walls with a minimum of effort being used to dress the stones. Coursing is extremely random, suggesting that any available stone was used. The mortar joints are very rough with a minimum of pointing. Larger stones were generally used for quoining with all the larger stones at or near ground level for the obvious reason that only manpower was available to lift the stones into position. Very simple windows and a door allow sunlight to reach the interior. Chimneys pierce the wood shingled gable roof at either end and effectively terminate the horizontal roof line. This structure is a typical example of the frontier architecture that served the very basic requirements of shelter for its occupants. The small stone structure has been enlarged by a one-story frame addition at right angles to the stone portion.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) ca. 1850's

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | osophy | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Pottawatomie Indian Pay Station in St. Marys, Kansas, reportedly built in the early 1850's, was used by government agents in paying the Pottawatomie Indians' annuities. These Indians had been moved in the 1830's from the Great Lakes region to Kansas, where they were allotted land to establish a reservation in what is now Miami county. Later the government permitted them to move to present Pottawatomie county. After choosing their own location, the first permanent group of Indians arrived September 9, 1848, accompanied by Catholic missionaries, who immediately began a mission and school. This settlement later became the town of St. Marys, and the Indian school became St. Mary's College in December, 1869.

When the Pottawatomies exchanged their lands for a reservation in Kansas, the United States government agreed to pay \$3,000,000 difference. This money was given to the individual members in small amounts every three months, often at the small stone building on the mission grounds. The annual amount paid to individuals in 1870 averaged \$688.00, and some families received as much as \$5,000. A newspaper account of one of the last annuities payments in St. Marys in 1870 described the event as "an utterly forlorn, dismal, and miserable spectacle." A paymaster from the Interior Department read off the names from inside the building, and an interpreter standing in the doorway repeated them, each individual coming forward to the building to get his payment. Much of the money passed immediately to traders or others having claims against an Indian.

The Pottawatomie Indian Pay Station is the oldest surviving building of the St. Marys Indian Mission and the oldest building in Pottawatomie county. Because of its use as a pay station for the Pottawatomie Indians by U. S. government agents during a period of approximately 20 years, it has significance and is worthy of recognition.

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(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries)

4. The City of St. Marys now has a 50-year lease on the Pottawatomie Indian Pay Station and it is being used as a museum.

9. Palmer, L. R., "A Historical Sketch of the Early Days of Pottawatomie County," St. Marys Times, July 14, 1876.
"Pottawatomie County," Pottawatomie County Herald (Louisville), March 26, 1879.
"A Short History of Pottawatomie County," Onaga Herald, August 21, 1941.
Smith, William E., "The Oregon Trail Through Pottawatomie County," Kansas Historical Collections, v. 17 (1926-1928), pp. 435-464.
Sutterlin, John Floyd, "Historical Outline of Pottawatomie County," 37 pp. manuscript in Kansas State Historical Society Library.
Watson, John, "Historic St. Mary's College Started as Indian Mission," Wichita Evening Eagle, September 17, 1953.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bolig, Richard Joseph, History of Catholic Education in Kansas, 1836-1932 (Washington, D. C., The Catholic University of America, 1933).
Early History of Pottawatomie County (n. p., 1954), pp. 27-29.
 "Epic of Western Pioneers Bound Up in St. Marys," Topeka Journal, August 21, 1948.
 "History of Pottawatomie County," Historical Records Survey, Works Project Administration (n. p., n. d.), pp. 1-5.
History of the State of Kansas (Chicago, A. T. Andreas, 1883), p. 71.
Kansas State Record (Topeka), October 30, 1870.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	39	11	30
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"	96	03	42
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"			
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **one acre**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:		Richard Pankratz, Planner Charles Hall, Architectural Consultant	
ORGANIZATION		DATE	
Kansas State Historical Society		October 12, 1971	
STREET AND NUMBER:			
120 West Tenth Street			
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE	CODE
Topeka		Kansas 66612	20

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name

Nyle H. Miller
Nyle H. Miller

Title

Executive Secretary, Kansas State Historical Society

Date

December 15, 1971

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS